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# Montana Association of Counties

*Serving Montana Counties Since 1909*

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www.mtcounties.org

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## DRAFT AGENDA

MACo MIDWINTER CONFERENCE  
BILLINGS HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13 – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012

### On-site Registration Open:

#### North Foyer

Monday, February 13	11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 14	7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 15	7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Thursday, February 16	7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012

9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Madison Room	Health Care Trust Trustees Meeting
1:00 p.m. Foyer	Exhibitors set up
1:00-4:30 p.m.	<b>MACo Committees Meetings</b>
2:30-3:00 p.m.	Coffee Break
1:00-2:00 p.m. Yellowstone Room	<u>Joint Agriculture Committee/Public Lands Committee</u>
2:00-4:30 p.m. Yellowstone Room	<u>Agriculture Committee</u> Kathy Bessette, Co-Chair, Hill County Maureen Davey, Co-Chair, Stillwater County
1:00-4:30 p.m. Big Horn Room	<u>Community Economic Development And Labor Committee</u> Joe Briggs, Chair, Cascade County
1:00-4:30 p.m. Stillwater Room	<u>Energy Committee</u> John Prinkki, Chair, Carbon County
1:00-4:30 p.m.	<u>Health &amp; Human Services Committee</u>

Boulder Room	Bill Kennedy, Chair, Yellowstone County
2:00-4:30 pm. Missouri Room	<u>Public Lands Committee</u> Lesley Robinson, Chair, Phillips County
5:00 p.m. Parlor 1010 Room	Hard Rock Mining Counties Meeting Jim Hart, Chair Madison County Commissioner
5:00 p.m. Gallatin Room	Urban Counties Meeting Andy Hunthausen, Chair Lewis & Clark County Commissioner
5:00 p.m. Jefferson Room	6 County Fort Peck Lake Group Meeting Troy Blunt, Chair, Phillips County Commissioner
6:00 p.m. Madison Room	Board of Directors Dinner meeting

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2012**

7:00-8:30 a.m. Madison Room	JPA Trustees Breakfast Meeting
7:30-8:30 a.m. Jefferson Room	Reservation Counties Breakfast Meeting
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Foyer	Exhibitors
8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon	<b>MACo Committee Meetings</b>
10:00-10:30 a.m. Foyer	Coffee Break
Yellowstone Room	<u>Information Technology/Telecommunications</u> Sandra Broesder, Co-Chair, Pondera County Steve White, Co-Chair, Gallatin County
Big Horn Room	<u>Justice &amp; Public Safety Committee</u> Bill Barron, Chair, Lake County
Stillwater Room	<u>Land Use &amp; Development Committee</u> Paddy Trusler, Co-Chair, Lake County
Boulder Room	<u>Transportation Committee</u> John Ostlund, Chair, Yellowstone County
12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. Ballroom	Lunch
1:00-5:00 p.m. Gallatin/Missouri Rooms	County Treasurers Meeting
1:00-3:00 p.m. Yellowstone/Big Horn Rooms	<b>General Session</b>
1:00-1:30 p.m.	<b>“The American Community Survey: What it is &amp; How it Compares to the 2000 Census Long Form”</b>  The American Community Survey (ACS) is an ongoing US Census Bureau survey that provides data every year – giving communities the current information they need to plan investments and services. Information from the survey generates data that help determine how more than \$400 billion in federal and state funds are distributed each year. To help communities, state governments, and federal programs, the ACS asks about characteristics such as age, income and benefits, health insurance, education, where you work and how you get there, etc.

All the detailed information from the ACS is combined into estimates that are used to help decide everything from school lunch programs to new hospitals.

**Presenter:** Joe Ramler, Senior Economist  
Census & Economic Information Center

1:30-2:00 p.m.

### **MDT Off-System Bridge Program Update**

MDT is starting to select bridges for work under the Off-System Bridge Program. A new process will be used. We are trying to get the Counties more involved in the selection process and in the project design. The goal is to reduce delivery time and cost while building projects that better meet the needs of the local area. I believe this will help us build more bridges in a shorter time. I want to talk about the changes and our vision for future project delivery. We will be asking for more County involvement in both project selection and during design. In the design stage, I want to shift the MDT role closer to that of a design consultant there to meet the needs of the Owner.

Presenter: Kent Barnes, P.E. Bridge Engineer  
MDT Bridge Bureau

2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

### **General Session**

County Wildland Fire Cooperative Agreements with the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

DNRC provides over 200 Wildland Fire trucks to counties for initial attack on wildland fires. Lack of workers compensation coverage for operators threatens the existence of this program.

DNRC Representative Bob Harrington  
Harold Blattie

3:15 – 3:45  
Foyer

Coffee Break

Visit with Exhibitors

3:45 – 4:30

NACo Prescription Drug Discount Card Changes – Harold Blattie

Veterans' Burials – Sheryl Wood

4:30 p.m.  
Yellowstone/Big Horn  
Rooms

Oil, Gas, and Coal Counties Meeting  
Richard Dunbar, Chair, Phillips County

5:30 p.m.  
Madison Room

JPIA Trust Trustees Dinner Meeting

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2012**

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Foyer	Exhibitors
8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Gallatin/Missouri Rooms	County Treasurers Meeting
8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Madison Room	County Clerk and Recorders Meeting
8:00-9:30 a.m. Yellowstone/Big Horn Rooms	MACo Committee Reports <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agriculture Committee</li> <li>2. Community Economic Development and Labor Committee</li> <li>3. Energy Committee</li> <li>4. Health &amp; Human Services Committee</li> <li>5. Public Lands Committee</li> <li>6. Information Technology/Telecommunications Committee</li> <li>7. Justice &amp; Public Safety Committee</li> <li>8. Land Use &amp; Development Committee</li> <li>9. Transportation Committee</li> </ol>
9:30-10:00 a.m. Foyer	Coffee Break  Visit with Exhibitors
10:00-11:00 a.m.	Joint Powers Insurance Authority (Property and Casualty) Membership Meeting/Election of Officer
11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon	Joint Powers Authority (Workers' Compensation) Membership Meeting/Election of Officer
12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. Stillwater/Boulder Rooms	Lunch  Safety Award Presentations for Workers' Compensation Member Counties
1:00-4:00 p.m. Yellowstone/Big Horn Rooms	<b>General Session with Clerk and Recorders and Treasurers</b>
1:00-2:00 p.m.	"Pension Funding" – Discussion on Legislative Fiscal Division's work regarding the retirement systems  Amy Carlson, Legislative Fiscal Analyst Director, Legislative Fiscal Division

- 2:00-2:30 p.m. Discussion in regards to the work of the Public Employees Retirement Board
- Outcome of the (PERB) Legislative Work Session
  - Unfunded Liability and what this means to Montana’s Counties
  - GASB Preliminary View
  - 125 Plans and their impact on future funding status
  - Looking for ways to supplement pensions?
  - We are here to partner with Montana’s Counties
- Presenter: Roxanne Minnehan, Executive Director  
Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration
- 2:30-3:00 p.m. Coffee Break  
Foyer
- 3:00-4:00 p.m. **General Session**  
Yellowstone/Big Horn  
Rooms
- 3:00 – 3:15 Julie Unfer – National Association of Counties
- 3:15 – 4:00 Everything you Want to Know About the “Return to Work, Stay at Work”  
Program
- Basics of Return to Work/Stay at Work
  - Temporary Work Assignments-what they are; how to develop them
  - Specific job duty ideas for RTW/SAW
  - Re-evaluate progress monthly
  - How to enlist help from a CRC and RN
  - Group discussion
- Presenters: Janet Schroeder, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor and  
Certified Rehabilitation Counselor  
Kathy Huff, R.N. and Certified Nurse Life Care Planner
- 4:00 p.m. Coalition of Forest Counties Meeting  
Yellowstone/Big Horn  
Rooms  
Carol Brooker, Chair, Sanders County Commissioner
- 4:30-6:30 p.m. MACo Health Care Trust “Pool” Party  
Ballroom  
Hosted Social Event with hors d’oeuvres and beverages  
Sponsored by: MACo Health Care Trust, Allegiance Benefit Plan Management,  
and Standard Life

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012**

8:00-8:30 a.m. Madison Room	<u>Tax, Budget &amp; Finance Committee</u> Cynthia Johnson, Chair, Pondera County
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Foyer	Exhibitors
8:30-10:00 a.m. Yellowstone/Big Horn Rooms	General Session  The BAAKEN Oil Development in Eastern Montana will dominate the 2013 Legislature from Revenue Distribution for Schools and Local Governments, Land Use and Impacts to Communities. This will affect EVERY Montana County.  Overview – Representative Matt Rosendale – HD 38
10:00-10:30 a.m. Foyer	Coffee Break
10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon Yellowstone/Big Horn Rooms	Hydraulic Fracturing – The myths and the facts.  Presenter: Tom Richards – Montana Board of Oil and Gas
12:00 -1:00 p.m. Stillwater/Boulder Roms	Lunch
1:00-3:00 p.m. Yellowstone/Big Horn Rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• County Impacts</li> <li>• Municipal Impacts – Bet Smelzer, Mayor of Sidney</li> <li>• School Impacts – Garth Harmon, Bainville School District</li> <li>• Revenue Allocations – Harold Blattie</li> <li>• Build it and they will come – Whoa! – They already came, now what do we do? Tara DePuy, MACo JPIA Land Use Attorney</li> </ul>